Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 MCT-01 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 SY-05 ACDA-07 USSS-00 IO-13 NSCE-00 /087 W

O R 021340Z JUN 77 FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4514 INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE AMEMBASSY CANBERRA AMCONSUL MELBOURNE AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

CONFIDENTIAL ZAGREB 466

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, PINS, YO

SUBJECT: POLICEMAN MURDERED IN ZAGREB

REF: ZAGREB 425 (NOTAL)

- 1. THIS MORNING'S LOCAL PRESS, JUNE 2, CARRIED A SHORT NEWS ITEM REPORTING THE MURDER OF A POLICEMAN AND APPEALING FOR THE PUBLIC'S ASSISTANCE IN SOLVING THE MURDER. THE POLICEMAN, IDENTIFIED AS DRAGAN BEKO, WAS KILLED IN ZAGREB BETWEEN 2300 MONDAY NIGHT AND 0030 TUESDAY MORNING NEAR THE CROATIAN REPUBLIC HEADQUARTERS OF THE SECRETARIAT FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS.
- 2. A WELL-CONNECTED AND USUALLY WELL-INFORMED LAWYER FIRST TOLD US ABOUT THE MURDER OF THE POLICEMAN LAST NIGHT, JUNE 1. HE CLAIMED THAT THE POLICEMAN WAS A GUARD AT CROATIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS HEADQUARTERS AND THAT HE WAS SLASHED TO DEATH IN A PARTICULAR MANNER REMINISCENT OF THE USTASHI. ACCORDING TO THE LAWYER, THE YUGOSLAV SECURITY AUTHORITIES ARS CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSSIBLE INFILTRATION FROM ABROAD OF MEMBERS OF USTASHI CONFIDENTIAL

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GROUPS WHICH MAY HAVE IN MIND CAUSING DISRUPTIONS IN YUGOSLAVIA COINCIDING WITH THE BELGRADE CSCE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE BEGINNING JUNE 15.

3. OF POSSIBLE TANGENTIAL RELEVANCE AND AS ANTICIPATED IN REFTEL, WE HAVE RECEIVED IN THE PAST THREE DAYS FOUR ADDITIONAL LETTERS FROM CROATIAN EMIGRE GROUPS. THE LETTERS,

TYPED IN ENGLISH, COME FROM: A) CROATIAN PEASANT PARTY--WINDSOR BR. 6 DR. VLATKO MACEK, 2520 SEMINOLE ST., WINDSOR, ONTARIO N8Y 1X4 CANADA; B) CROATIAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION--BRACA RADICI, P.O. BOX 74, BLACKTOWN, N.S.W. 2148, AUSTRALIA; C) CROATIAN CULTURAL AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION--STJEPAN RADIC, P.O. BOX 211 CITY, CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA; AND D) CROATIAN CULTURAL AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION--DR. VLADKO MACEK, 1 PECKVILLE ST., CLIFTEN HILL VIC. 3068, AUSTRALIA.

4. IN GENERAL, THESE LETTERS PROTEST THE HOLDING IN BELGRADE OF THE CSCE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE AND THE SUPPRESSION OF FREE-DOM IN CROATIA. THEY APPEAL FOR A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC CROATIA. (WE ARE POUCHING COPIES OF THE ABOVE CORRESPONDENCE TO EUR/EE.)

5. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THAT LOCAL SECURITY MEASURES TO PROTECT AGAINST UNWANTED VISITORS TO YUGOSLAVIA ARE BEING STEPPED UP, AND WE ASSUME THAT INTENSIVE SECURITY MEASURES ARE BEING TAKEN LOCALLY IN LIGHT OF THE MURDER OF THE POLICEMAN. KAISER

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